

**TOWN OF GRANBY
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION 2011
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 14, 2011**

PRESENT: Francis Brady; Chairman; Terri Ann Hahn, Annie Hornish, Lowell Johnson, Sheri Litchfield, Jim Lofink, Melissa Migliaccio, Bruce Murtha, and David Russell

The meeting of the Charter Revision Commission 2011 was called to order by Chairman Francis Brady at 7:16 p.m.

MINUTES

The minutes of the December 7, 2011 meeting were reviewed.

ON A MOTION by Lowell Johnson, seconded by Sheri Litchfield, the Commission voted (9-0-0) to approve the minutes of December 7, 2011, as presented.

CONSIDERATION OF INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM PUBLIC HEARING DECEMBER 14, 2011

Chairman Brady suggested taking the comments received from the public hearing and assigning them to the appropriate working groups to gain a more reflective view. The Commission concurred.

Working Group #1 will research the pros and cons for a Planning and Zoning Commission to be either an elective or appointed Commission.

Working Group #2 will look at expanding the role of the Board of Selectmen, allowing for an appointment of a temporary position to fill in on an agency, board, or commission. They will also examine the pros and cons for adding a commission's function to the Charter, in particular the Capital Program Priority Advisory Committee.

Working Group #3 will check into the language usage in Charter Section 9-3, in particular the words "may" and "shall".

Working Group #4 will consider the pros and cons for a budget referendum vote and voting separately on a municipal and school budget.

CONSIDERATION OF CHARTER SECTIONS TWO AND THREE (discussion led by Ms. Litchfield and Ms. Hornish)

Section 2-2: A review was made and more information from the Board of Selectmen is needed.

Section 2-3: A review was made and inquiry will be made to the Registrars of Voters regarding the history, number of, and reasons for municipal voting districts.

Section 2-4: A review was made and no change is suggested at this time.

Section 2-5: A review was made and it will be referred to the Registrars of Voters for their input regarding the term voting device or voting machine. A discussion was made about a possibility of three-way tie and the language to address it.

Section 2-6: A review was made and this section will be referred to Board of Selectmen for their input regarding different time limits in this section. A general discussion was made about the

meaning of “vacancy” and “whatever cause” as well as the advisability of adding a reference to the office of Registrar of Voters. It will be further discussed at a later date.

The meeting was suspended at 8:00 p.m. in order to listen to a resident give comment on the Charter, as he was late for the public hearing. James Glenney of 33 Glen Road commented he wanted the Commission to review budget vote process. He prefers that the budget be decided by referendum vote.

The meeting reopened at 8:03 p.m.

Section 3-11 and Section 11-2: A review was made and more review is needed on the state statute regarding the process for the selection of a temporary town moderator.

Section 3-3: A review was made and no major changes are suggested. State Statute 9-190a will be reviewed for its significance as mentioned in the Charter.

Section 3-4: A review was made about membership terms. An inquiry will be made to the Board of Selectmen and a review of state statute 9-187 will also be made.

Section 3-6: A review was made and further review of the state statute is needed.

Section 3-11: A review was made about membership terms.

Section 3-12; A review was made and no change is suggested at this time.

A general preliminary discussion was made whether changes should be made to Charter in Section Two and Three, without any consensus by the Commission. State Statute 7-148 regarding an ethics committee will be reviewed.

Ms. Hornish and Ms. Litchfield reported a recall provision was reviewed and it was not a charter item to consider. They also took detailed notes regarding the above sections discussed and will report back at a later date.

CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING

As a wrap up of the meeting, Chairman Brady asked the members whether tonight’s approach for review should be continued or, if there are any other suggestions. The consensus of the Commission was to continue the same approach and dialogue among the members is outstanding. Chairman Brady will look at possibly repositioning the workload. Item #4 on the agenda will be deferred to the next meeting. Ms. Hahn commented that a definition section for the Charter should be considered. A future Saturday morning informational meeting will be scheduled. Chairman Brady will look at when other boards will come to the meetings. Another agenda item will be public comment added to the first part of the meeting.

The Charter Revision Commission 2011 next regular meeting is scheduled on January 4, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On a **MOTION** by Lowell Johnson, seconded by Bud Murtha, the Board voted unanimously (9-0-0) to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia I. Chieski
Recording Secretary